City of Eugene



InMotion December 2012

Happy Holidays Everyone! Check out this month's Area Events for great ways to get active while spending time with family and friends!

InMotion is a monthly e-newsletter produced to help communicate with Eugene's biking and walking enthusiasts. Each month you will find information about upcoming local events and advocacy opportunities that pertain to all forms of active transportation. Please feel free to forward this great community resource to anyone you think might enjoy it.



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If you are not a Facebook user you can simply view our page by clicking the button to the left. You do not have to become a Facebook member to view the page.

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MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT

City of Eugene Seeks New Members to Serve on Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

The City of Eugene seeks residents who are interested in serving on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC). BPAC advises the City of Eugene staff, community organizations, and partner agencies on implementation of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategic Plan, represents community and constituent interests in transportation planning decisions, and provides feedback to staff on projects relating to walking and bicycling.

BPAC members will play a vital role in implementing the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan which will shape the future of the pedestrian and bicycling system for the next 20 years and make Eugene an even greater city for walking and biking.

Recruitment is underway to fill seven vacancies for one or two year terms. Applicants must be residents in Eugene's Urban Growth Boundary willing to attend monthly meetings and read background materials provided by city staff. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

Applications are available online via the City of Eugene website at: www.eugene-or.gov/bpac, e-mail at: lee.shoemaker@ci.eugene.or.us, or by picking up an application at City of Eugene Engineering office, 99 E. Broadway, Suite 400, Eugene.

The deadline for submitting applications is <u>December 7, 2012</u>. New members will be appointed to serve beginning in January 2013.

For more information, contact Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator Lee Shoemaker at 682-5471 or lee.shoemaker@ci.eugene.or.us.

(Bike) Bells Will Be Ringing - Donate to Eugene Sunday Streets!

This giving season, please consider donating to <u>Eugene Sunday Streets</u>. We are hoping to hold two events in 2013, but can't do it without individual donations from people like you! <u>Eugene Sunday Streets</u> spreads the happiness of active transportation amongst community members of all ages in our dear City.

Your donation will allow us to hold not only one, but two <u>Sunday Streets</u> events in 2013! That's right, Eugenians love their Sunday Streets, so we're crankin' it up a gear!

By giving to <u>Eugene Sunday Streets</u>, you're helping more adults and children in our community utilize active transportation in a safe environment, maybe even trying human-powered transportation for the first time on a City street. <u>Eugene Sunday Streets</u> focuses on health, building community, and making people feel good. Your donation will help us continue to make people happy and healthy in 2013 and for many years to come.





BONUS: If you give \$35 or more, we'll send you a <u>Eugene Sunday Streets</u> or a limited edition <u>Eugene Bicyclist</u> t-shirt! This might make a great gift for someone on your list!

All donations are tax deductible!!!

Thanks for your support of this great community event! ~ Eugene Sunday Streets Team

FEATURED NEWS

Use Caution on the Riverbank Path System

CAUTION: While biking on the Riverbank Path System this time of year, you may encounter areas flooded by the Willamette River. This can be a particular concern along the North Bank Path through Alton Baker Park from the DeFazio Bridge east to the shelters and the section of East Bank Path south of Beltline and north of the Owosso Bridge. Also, Amazon Creek flooding can occur on Fern Ridge Bike Path underpasses at both Chambers Street and Bertelsen



Road. Please slow down and use caution in these areas or be prepared to take an alternate route during and immediately following periods of heavy rain.

Save Money on Your Commute: Salem/Corvallis to Eugene Vanpools Forming Now

Valley VanPool has the solution to beat the high cost of long-distance commuting. Drive alone commuters from Salem or Corvallis to Eugene spend about \$450 - \$650 per month - just for gas, tires, and maintenance. By sharing the ride with other like-minded people in a Valley VanPool van, that same commute would cost just \$125 - \$160 per month (based on van size and ridership).

Valley VanPool will hold an information session at Lane Transit District (3500 E. 17th Ave, Eugene), on Thursday, December 13th from 12:00pm - 1:00pm. Commuters interested in vanpooling will have the opportunity to meet other people who live or work near them and have all of their questions answered. The goal of this meeting will be to form at least one new vanpool to start in January. Lunch will be provided. Seating is limited. Please call Tracy at 541-682-6183 to reserve your spot.

Valley VanPool currently supports 32 vanpools that serve over 300 commuters in the Willamette Valley. Commuters find that vanpooling allows them to relax, read, work, or even sleep, instead of fighting traffic. Other benefits include saving money on gas, maintenance, insurance, wear and tear on personal vehicles, and reducing harmful pollutants that threaten our environment.

Valley VanPool is a collaboration of Cascades West Rideshare (Albany), Cherriots Rideshare (Salem), and Point2point at Lane Transit District (Eugene). Current routes serve Albany/Corvallis, Eugene, Salem, Newport, Portland, Sheridan, and more. For more information on current routes, contact Valley VanPool at 877-Van-GoGo (877-826-4646) or visit ValleyVanpool.Info.

Take the Survey: Make Cycling in Oregon Even Better!

Travel Oregon, in partnership with bicycle and tourism partners throughout the state, is sponsoring a survey on the economic impact of bicycle related tourism to Oregon's economy. Information gathered from this survey will aid our understanding of the spending and travel patterns of bicycling visitors on Oregon's economy. The results will also help us distinguish bicycle related opportunities in Oregon.

As a traveler in Oregon during 2011 and/or 2012, your insight is pivotal to our success and will enable us to deliver a richer experience in the future. Please help us by providing information about your experience in Oregon, including times that included riding or attending a bicycle related event. The survey should take approximately 10 minutes. The answers you supply will be used for statistical purposes only and will be kept strictly confidential.

The link to the survey is provided below:

http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22GJ7L35WX6

There is more <u>information here</u> if you would like to learn more about the survey.

Regional Bike Parking Study

Know where a good spot is (or should be) to park your bike? Go to: <u>Interactive on-line Bike</u> <u>Parking Web Survey</u>

Between now and mid-December, Lane Transit District is hosting an on-line survey to collect public input on where bike parking currently is or needed in our region. As part of the <u>Regional Bike Parking Study</u>, the information will help paint an accurate picture of existing and future regional bike parking supply and demand.

Don't delay with your insights. The survey closes on Friday, December 14.

Why the study?

In the Eugene-Springfield urbanized area, bicycle commuting to work is at an all time high, accounting for 7% of travel mode choice. To accommodate today and tomorrow's bicyclists, ample, safe, secure, and inviting bicycle parking is needed throughout our region.

Lane Transit District's Point2point, our regional transportation options program, secured funding to understand short and long term bicycle parking supply and demand, concerns about existing facilities, potential new locations, best bicycle parking for transit stations, and potential development code changes.

How do I stay updated?

It's simple. Just email bikeitparkit@ltd.org to receive updates throughout the study.

What next?

Keep an eye out for these upcoming public input events:

- 2013 January: Virtual Design Workshop
- 2013 February: Community Open House

For more information please go to <u>point2pointsolutions@ltd.org</u> and look under News Headlines, or contact Project Manager, Marcia Maffei, at <u>bikeitparkit@ltd.org</u> or 541-682-6206.

AREA EVENTS

Get out and walk or bike with Eugene Recreation

Eugene Recreation offers opportunities for walking and biking and they are free! First Saturday Park Walks are a family favorite and appropriate for all ages. Led by naturalists from the River House



Outdoor Program, you'll explore the ecology and management of Eugene's beautiful parks each month, including the Willow Creek Preserve, Delta Ponds, Skinner Butte Park, and the Wild Iris Ridge.

There are two self-led weekly walking groups for adults.

Walk'n'Talkers depart Campbell Center, 155 High St., Fridays at 9:00

a.m. They walk 3-5 miles at a quick pace rain or shine. The route varies but there is usually a stop for coffee. The Walk With Us Walk group meets at Petersen Barn Community Center, 870 Berntzen Rd., Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. for a walk around the neighborhood. Both walking groups are drop in.

Bike Riding for Fun & Fitness is an adult biking group that meets at Campbell Center for in-town rides Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. October-April, and at 9:30 a.m. May-September. Helmets are required. Rides vary in length and time depending on ability.

Cycling for Veterans is a new program for veterans of all abilities. They meet at Maurie Jacobs Park parking lot, on the north end of Fir Lane, for bike rides every Thursday, May 2-Sept. 12, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Drop-in. Adapted bikes are available upon request, contact Patty at 541-682-5311.

For more information, check out the Winter/Spring Recreation Guide. See the virtual Guide at www.eugene-or.gov/recguide, or call any of the centers mentioned in this article.

Walking Groups – Fridays

Self-led groups walk 9-11 a.m. on Fridays from Campbell Center, 155 High St. . The Campbell group typically does 3-5 miles at a brisk pace and may stop for coffee along the way. The walk is drop in, no registration, and free. No walks when centers are closed. Call 541-682-5318 for information.

<u>Upcoming First Saturday Park Walks!! – 9 AM – 11AM</u>

Explore the ecology and management of Eugene's beautiful parks. Naturalist from the Outdoor Program at the River House will lead these FREE interpretive walks.

For more information call: Phone: 541-682-5329

Dec 1, Pre's Trail, Alton Baker Park; Meet at River House Community Center.

First Friday Outdoor Baby Walk and Talk - 10 AM - 11 AM

Discover natural locations to take your baby for walks around Eugene while socializing with others and enjoying the great outdoors. Walks are on paved paths and will happen rain or shine. You may want to bring a stroller or other baby carrier. Free, no registration necessary. For more information, contact the City of Eugene River House Outdoor Program 541-682-5329.

Dec 7, Meet at River House Community Center.

<u>Kidical Mass Holiday Lights Ride – Dec 15</u> Monroe Park, Saturday, Dec. 15th, 5:00 p.m. Join us for the last Kidical Mass of 2012!

We'll venture out into the dark and cold to enjoy festive holiday lights and end with a big family style pizza dinner together.

It will be a great time to show off your own lighting bling; reflectors, blinkies, glow sticks, battery powered holiday lights, or other crazy displays of luminance and reflectory that make you and your family visible when riding at night.

If the weather is horrible we'll make a b-line to Cozmic Pizza but if it isn't too bad we'll zig-zag through the neighborhoods and see more lights... and who knows, maybe even squeeze in some Kidical Caroling!

See a map of the two potential routes <u>HERE</u> and get ready for some holiday cheer... on bikes!

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Detour Routes Offer Options to Cyclists While 12th Alley is Closed

The alley connecting West 12th Avenue between Olive to Willamette streets has been closed while work proceeds with the Capstone housing project on the previous PeaceHealth clinic site.

Working with the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, City staff has identified several detour options for cyclists and pedestrians who travel through the area. A map showing the detour routes can be viewed at www.eugene-or.gov/bicycles.

The closure is anticipated to last through the summer of 2013 as the new buildings and a new bicycle and pedestrian accessway are constructed. The existing public alley between Olive and Willamette streets had been heavily used by bicycles and pedestrians. The former West 12th Avenue right-of-way had an angled alignment and an uneven width. The redeveloped site will include a new, dedicated 20-foot-wide public accessway for bicycles and pedestrians located between Olive and Willamette streets.

The alley reconstruction benefits bicycles and pedestrians by providing a straighter alignment and enhanced crossings on Willamette and Olive streets. In addition, automobiles will be prohibited in the rededicated alley. To increase the safety and operation of the 12th Avenue

active transportation corridor, the developer will install new amenities on Olive and Willamette streets, including:

- a bicycle crossing island at the intersection of West 12th Avenue and Olive Street that prohibits left turns for automobiles; and
- a replacement crosswalk on Willamette Street that aligns the bicycle connection through the site with the existing bicycle way east of Willamette Street along with another crossing island.

The new right-of-way dedication and related public improvements were a condition of approval for development of the site. More information and images of the proposed accessway are available on the City's website at www.eugene-or.gov/downtowncapstone.

Road Construction Traffic Advisories

- Check the <u>PW Project</u>s site for the latest information on road work in the Eugene area.
- Go to <u>www.keepusmoving.info</u> for regional project reports, including City of Eugene, ODOT and other agencies
- For the most current updates, go to www.twitter.com/EugenePW



How to Report Maintenance Issues for City Facilities

Glass on the path, leaves in the bike lane, or bushes overhanging the sidewalk? Report it to the City of Eugene!

Here are three options for reporting maintenance issues in bike lanes, on multi-use paths, sidewalks. You can use the first two to report any other issues in city right of way or parks:

- 1. Call 541-682-4800 during business hours.
- 2. Send an email to: pwmaintenance@ci.eugene.or.us
- 3. Go to the City website and report on the Maintenance page.

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CITY RESOURCES

Report a Pothole Program

It's easy to report a pothole to the Eugene Public Works Maintenance Division! There is even a handy online pothole reporting form available at www.eugene-or.gov/pothole! The form will ask for some brief information about the pothole, including its location (if on the path, try to give as much location info as possible). There's also a place for you to provide your contact information. If you would prefer, you can call Public Works Maintenance at 541-682-4800 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and file the report over the phone.

If you'd like to follow up with the City after making a pothole request, just send an email to pwmaintenance@ci.eugene.or.us with the word "pothole" in the subject line.

(Please remember that Eugene Public Works only repairs potholes on streets/paths in the city of Eugene. We will make a field inspection of every reported pothole within two business days. In many cases we will immediately fill the pothole; however, in some cases we may choose to wait to schedule an alternate treatment such as maintenance overlay. FMI: go to www.eugene-or.gov/pothole)

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Water Bottles to Benefit the Jane Higdon Foundation

Honorary water bottles are being sold, with all proceeds going to help support the Jane Higdon Memorial Fund. The water bottles are \$5.00 and being sold at Newman's Fish Co. at 1545 Willamette Street, Eugene. Jane was an avid cyclist. She wanted to make a difference in the world and focused on ways to make her life more meaningful. She was tragically killed in 2006, when she was struck by a truck while on a bicycle training ride on a beautiful Oregon rural road.

The Memorial Fund supports scholarships and grants to encourage girls and young women to pursue healthy, active lifestyles and academic excellence. The Memorial Fund also makes donations to non-profits that advocate and work for bicycling and pedestrian safety in Oregon. Additional information can be found at: www.janehigdonfoundation.com

Don't Forget to Purchase Your "Share the Road" License Plates



Oregon residents can help support cycling throughout Oregon by purchasing "Share the Road" license plates from the Oregon State Department of Motor Vehicles. Proceeds go to the <u>Bicycle Transportation Alliance</u> and <u>Cycle Oregon</u> to help fund bicycle education and advocacy.

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/DMV/vehicle/platenonprof.shtml#share

GOVERNMENT

<u>Point2Point Solutions</u> promotes and offers transportation options programs to the Lane County region's businesses, organizations, and educational institutions for their employees, staff and students. It is supported by Lane County's jurisdictions and is housed at Lane Transit District. http://www.ltd.org/cs/csindex.html

<u>www.eugene-or.gov/bicycles</u> the City of Eugene website contains bike maps and resources for biking in Eugene.

<u>www.keepusmoving.info</u> This site is user friendly and contains regional information about the transportation planning process, current projects, and information about transportation options. The site is maintained by the Lane Council of Governments.

The <u>Oregon Department of Transportation</u> (ODOT) website includes links to the <u>Oregon Bicycle Manual</u> and information on laws and regulations and a list of <u>bike travel web resources</u>.

Families of local K-12 students can receive free services to help them find carpool partners or form groups to walk or bike together to school. Visit www.point2pointsolutions.org or call 541-682-6213. Services are easy and are customized for each family to connect with other families of their child's school.

UO Bike Program now offers bicycle maintenance classes every term. Call 541-346-4365 or come into the <u>Outdoor Program</u> office in the basement of the EMU to register.

The <u>U of O Department of Public Safety</u> strongly encourages bicycling as a way of responsible transportation. With Oregon weather, bicycling in winter months can be discouraging and challenging for those that may not have the proper riding gear. You'll find information in this site about the availability of covered parking, safety recommendations, and a listing of local shops where you may purchase adequate gear for the conditions.

The <u>Eugene Transportation System Plan website</u> has been updated to include survey questions. A webcast of the transportation plan overview given to the City Council on April 18th is available <u>here</u>. An overview will also be given to the Planning Commission at their May 7th meeting, beginning at 11:30AM in the McNutt Room at City Hall.

<u>Lane Council of Governments</u> is the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization, the lead agency for regional transportation planning and distributing federal transportation dollars for the central Lane County area. It serves as a forum for cooperative transportation decision making within the region. The website has information about opportunities for public comment, news and events, meetings, and transportation plans and programs. http://www.thempo.org/

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COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

The Bicycle <u>Transportation Alliance (BTA)</u> is a statewide organization that works to promote bicycle use and safety and to improve bicycling conditions throughout the state of Oregon. In the Eugene/Springfield area, the BTA's Bicycle Safety program brings safety education to middle schools every year. For more information, go to <u>www.bta4bikes.org</u>.

<u>BikeLane Coalition</u> is a local non-profit organization that promotes safe cycling in Lane County. Membership opportunities include the Corporate Membership option: web page for the company, commuting assistance and route planning; and the Premium Membership option that includes membership in the League of American Bicyclists, The League Magazine, Bicycle Magazine, Roadside assistance and the usual benefits of membership such as discounts at participating bike shops. A discount is offered for those already members of other local cycling organizations. For more information go to www.bikelanecoalition.org

Center for Appropriate Transport (CAT) is a non-profit organization committed to community involvement in manufacturing, using, and advocating sustainable modes of transportation. The first organization of its kind, the Center was founded in Eugene, Oregon in the fall of 1992. Since that time the CAT has established a number of projects under one roof designed to further this mission including Pedalers Express delivery service, education and youth programs, Eugene Bicycle Works community bike shop, and more. CAT has also established an apprenticeship program that focuses on cargo bike frame building. For more information, go to www.catoregon.org

<u>Eugene-Springfield Mossback Volkssport Club</u> - Volkssports, literally "popular" or "folk" sports, are organized walking, swimming, bicycling, roller skating, and cross-country skiing events providing exercise that contributes to physical fitness. The Mossback Club usually meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Willamalane Senior Adult Activity Center, 215 West C Street, Springfield. Please call 726-7169 or 747-6470, to verify meeting location. Club events are listed and described at their website, www.mossbacks.org. For more information contact Carmella at mossbacksclub@comcast.net.

<u>GEARS (Greater Eugene Area Riders)</u> invites the community to join club members on <u>several weekly bike rides</u>. Rides vary in location, distance, and terrain. The main purpose of GEARs is to foster bike riding. All cyclists must wear an ANSI or SNEL/ASTM approved helmet. Riders should also carry a water bottle, tire pump, spare tube and patch kit.

Everyone is welcome to attend Eugene GEARs Board Meetings. For more information or times and location go to www.eugenegears.org/

The Eugene Safe Routes to School Program is a community approach to encourage and enable more people to walk and bike to school safely. We support schools and families in their efforts to increase active transportation choices by supporting individual SRTS committees, growing bicycle and pedestrian education for adults and children, and working to establish policies that encourage healthy, fun, and safe transportation choices.

For more information contact Shane Rhodes at rhodes_sh@4j.lane.edu or 541-556-3553

Nordic Walkers: For more information on Nordic Walking classes and lesson costs contact Barbara or Dan Gleason: 345-0450 or 345-3974 or email them at nordicwalkerbg@comcast.net

COMMUNITY BIKE BLOGS
www.eugenecycles.com
www.webikeeugene.org
www.eugenebicyclist.com

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BUSINESS PARTNERS:

<u>Walk a Smile In</u>: Step up, step out, step forward! Avid longtime walker/retired nurse walks one-on-one with clients to support improving personal and planetary fitness. Call or email for details, charges, appointment. Gift certificates available. Call or email Jenny at 541-343-6049, <u>walkasmilein@gmail.com</u>.

The <u>Eugene Running Company</u> offers a diverse series of walking and running groups for people of all levels from beginner to the hard-core. All groups and training are lead in a fun and supportive atmosphere. For more information on dates and times go to www.eugenerunningcompany.com

Second Summer Tours is a group led by Rob Templin, a local rider in Eugene. Join Rob and friends as he shares some of the 'secret' paths that will challenge you with tough climbs but reward you with deserted, traffic-free riding; and scenery to take your breath away. Tours are based out of Eugene. For more information go to: http://www.secondsummertours.com/oregon.php

Spirited Walkers Group Joining the Spirited Walkers marathon training group is a wonderful way to start the new year by making commitment to becoming more healthy and active, whether you actually want to walk a marathon or not. Registered walkers meet once a month for a sit down meeting of guest speakers who cover information about yoga for walkers, nutrition, hydration, clothes, shoes, and mental training techniques. There is a large group walking every Sunday. Beginning and intermediate mileage schedules are available. If you are interested, please contact Kay Porter at 342-6875 or email kayporter1@comcast.net, or go to www.thementalathlete.com for more information on times and cost.

Walk With Me! Walk the World with Tyler Burgess, fitness walking instructor and marathon walking coach for the University of Oregon and Lane Community College in Eugene, Oregon. Tyler walks to see the world, whether it is a big city, foreign country or our own backyard. Free walking tours take place on Tuesday nights from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Meet at the end of High Street by the Campbell Senior Center. It is free, fun, and for beginners. For more information go to www.walk-with-me.com

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This message has been sent by the Transportation Options Team to the individuals and organizations listed in our database who have requested information about transportation activities and options in Eugene, OR. Transportation Options is part of the City of Eugene Public Works Engineering. Our offices are located at 99 E. Broadway, Eugene, OR 97401.

If you do not wish to receive these messages in the future please email <a href="mailto:lindsay.r.selser@ci.eugene.or.us">lindsay.r.selser@ci.eugene.or.us</a>.

Thank you and our apologies if you received this message in error.